

**In The Matter Of:**

*Homeland Towers, LLC and Cellco Partnership  
d/b/a Verizon Wireless application*

---

*PUBLIC NIGHT HEARING  
August 2, 2016*

---

*BCT Reporting LLC  
PO Box 1774  
Bristol, CT 06010  
860.302.1876*

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

STATE OF CONNECTICUT.  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Docket No. 467

Homeland Towers, LLC and Cellco Partnership  
d/b/a Verizon Wireless application for a  
Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and  
Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and  
operation of a telecommunications facility located  
at 100 Pocono Road, Brookfield, Connecticut

Public Hearing held at the Brookfield Town  
Hall, Room 133, 100 Pocono Road, Brookfield,  
Connecticut, on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, beginning  
at 7:00 p.m.

H e l d   B e f o r e :  
ROBERT STEIN, Chairman

1    A p p e a r a n c e s :

2

3            Council Members:

4                    PHILIP T. ASHTON

5                    ROBERT HANNON

6                    MICHAEL HARDER

7                    DR. MICHAEL W. KLEMENS

8                    LARRY LEVESQUE, ESQ.

9                    DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.

10

11            Council Staff:

12                    MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.

13                    Executive Director and

14                    Staff Attorney

15                    ROBERT MERCIER

16                    Siting Analyst

17

18            For Homeland Towers, LLC and Cellco

19            Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless:

20                    ROBINSON & COLE LLP

21                    280 Trumbull Street

22                    Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3597

23                    BY:    KENNETH C. BALDWIN, ESQ.

24

25

1    A p p e a r a n c e s (Cont'd):

2

3            Homeland Towers:

4                    RAYMOND VERGATI

5

6            Cellco Partnership:

7                    MARIA MONTROSE

8

9            All-Points Technology Corporation P.C.:

10                    ROBERT BURNS.

11                    MICHAEL LIBERTINE

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1           THE CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon, ladies  
2 and gentlemen. I'd like to call to order this  
3 hearing which is the continuation of a hearing  
4 that began at 3 o'clock today, Tuesday, August 2,  
5 2016 at 7 p.m. My name is Robin Stein. I'm  
6 chairman of the Siting Council. If there's public  
7 here that would like to speak, there is a place to  
8 sign up there.

9           Other members of the Council present  
10 are Mr. Hannon, designee from the Department of  
11 Energy and Environmental Protection; Mr. Levesque,  
12 designee from the Public Utilities Regulatory  
13 Authority; Mr. Ashton; Dr. Klemens; Mr. Harder;  
14 and Mr. Lynch. Members of the staff present,  
15 Executive Director/Staff Attorney Melanie Bachman;  
16 Mr. Mercier, our siting analyst.

17           As stated at the outset, this is a  
18 continuation of a hearing that started at 3 p.m.  
19 Copies of the hearing program and the Citizen's  
20 Guide to our procedures are available where you  
21 signed in. This hearing is held pursuant to the  
22 provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General  
23 Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative  
24 Procedure Act upon an application from Homeland  
25 Towers, LLC and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon

1 Wireless for a Certificate of Environmental  
2 Compatibility and Public Need for the  
3 construction, maintenance, and operation of a  
4 telecommunications facility located at 100 Pocono  
5 Road, Brookfield, Connecticut. This application  
6 was received by the Council on June 6, 2016.

7           The applicant published notice of the  
8 filing of the application to the Council in the  
9 News Times on June 2nd and June 3, 2016. The  
10 Council's legal notice of the time and date of  
11 this hearing was published in the Pennysaver on  
12 June 30, 2016. Upon this Council's request, the  
13 applicant erected a sign at the proposed site so  
14 as to inform the public of the name of the  
15 applicant, the type of facility, the hearing date  
16 and location, and the contact information for the  
17 Council.

18           This afternoon members of the Council,  
19 staff and public personally conducted a field  
20 review of the proposed site in order to observe  
21 firsthand the potential effects of the proposal.

22           This hearing tonight is reserved for  
23 the public to make their short statements into the  
24 record. These public statements are not subject  
25 to questions from the parties or the Council, and

1 members of the public making statements may not  
2 ask questions of the parties or the Council.  
3 These statements will, however, become part of the  
4 record for our consideration. As mentioned,  
5 there's a sign-up sheet available for those who  
6 wish to participate.

7 I'd like to ask those making statements  
8 to confine his or her statements to the subject  
9 matter before the Council. A verbatim transcript  
10 will be made of this hearing deposited with the  
11 Brookfield Town Clerk's Office for the convenience  
12 of the public.

13 And I'll now call on the First  
14 Selectman, do you want to --

15 STEPHEN DUNN: Yes, if I could for a  
16 minute, just for the record.

17 Steve Dunn. I'm the first selectman of  
18 Brookfield. I was at your meeting this afternoon,  
19 and the town supports this. And I just wanted to  
20 reiterate that our fire, ambulance, EMS and public  
21 works department will all be using this tower. It  
22 is going to give us much better coverage and  
23 redundancy that we need. Everyone in the town,  
24 our planning board, zoning and other boards all  
25 approve of this and hope that this will move

1 forward.

2           The only concern we have is one that  
3 came up today, and I thank the Board for  
4 mentioning this, is that we absolutely do want to  
5 have redundant back-up capability through a  
6 generator, and we'll be working with Ray Vergati  
7 of Homeland and Verizon to achieve that. It's  
8 very important for the town to do that.

9           So thank you very much. I appreciate  
10 the time and effort you put into this. It's clear  
11 you spent a lot of time on this, and the town  
12 appreciates it. Thank you.

13           THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

14           The next speaker, Mr. Dembowski.

15           GREG DEMBOWSKI: I'm Greg Dembowski, 28  
16 Greenknoll Drive in Brookfield. Last name is  
17 D-E-M-B-O-W-S-K-I.

18           I have three questions, if I may ask  
19 them. And this may be a part of the record  
20 already, and I apologize if it is, and I was just  
21 not following this project close enough.

22           So, if I can, I'd like to ask three  
23 questions. The first is about lighting. The  
24 reason why I'm asking the question is our house  
25 faces east on the other side of the valley, so we



1 look into the firehouse. And since we see that  
2 firehouse, we know we're going to see the cell  
3 tower. I'm in support of it as well, but I do  
4 have three questions since I'll be seeing it from  
5 my bedroom window.

6           Lighting. Is there going to be  
7 lighting on this tower? Are there going to be  
8 flashing red lights, or how is it going to be lit,  
9 if at all?

10           My second question is about what's this  
11 tower going to look like. Is it going to have all  
12 kinds of dishes hanging off of it? Is it going to  
13 have equipment hanging off it, or is it going to  
14 be a simple straight up tower?

15           And my third question is about future  
16 changes and additions to the tower. If there's  
17 any changes to that tower, either in height or  
18 additional equipment placed on it, will there be  
19 more public notification and comment before any  
20 changes are made to it?

21           Those are my three questions. Thank  
22 you very much.

23           THE CHAIRMAN: First, let me see, we  
24 don't have anybody else who signed up to speak.  
25 So are there any other speakers?

1 (No response.)

2 THE CHAIRMAN: So I think you're  
3 fortunate. At least we'll try, between myself and  
4 maybe ask the applicant to answer, and the  
5 applicant can correct me also.

6 I believe on the issue of lighting of  
7 the tower there will be none.

8 MR. BALDWIN: Correct.

9 MICHAEL LIBERTINE: Correct.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: What it will look like,  
11 we have information. Do you have a -- we can show  
12 you. Can you show us what the tower will look  
13 like?

14 ROBERT BURNS: Yes, and the elevation.

15 THE CHAIRMAN: After we close the  
16 hearing, if you can stay, and you can explain in  
17 more detail to Mr. Dembowski.

18 Is that okay with you?

19 MR. BURNS: Sure.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: The third question is  
21 about future changes. Well, it's somewhat of an  
22 open-ended question. There are certain -- if they  
23 replace -- why don't you explain it. That's why I  
24 have an attorney sitting next to me.

25 MS. BACHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1           Certainly right now the only carrier  
2 that is going to be located on the tower is  
3 Verizon. However, the tower is designed for four  
4 carriers and the Town of Brookfield and their  
5 emergency communications equipment. So certainly  
6 if this Council decides to approve the tower,  
7 other carriers do have the option of submitting to  
8 the Council a request for a tower share. It would  
9 be a public filing, and they have to give us all  
10 the same details of the original applicant has  
11 provided to us, where they're going to be located,  
12 what size are the antennas, what associated  
13 equipment, and that would have to come before the  
14 full Council to vote to approve the tower sharing.

15           I will note that the state does have a  
16 tower sharing policy, and they encourage the  
17 sharing of towers. In the event that they need to  
18 increase the height of the tower to accommodate  
19 another entity, and if they increase it more than  
20 10 percent -- this is 150-foot tower. So if the  
21 increase in height is 15 feet, the Federal  
22 Communications Commission does have a  
23 nondiscretionary program where if it is only a 10  
24 percent increase, they could submit something to  
25 us to indicate that through the FCC, the program

1 to increase the height of the tower, and they  
2 could do it that way. But if it's over 10  
3 percent, they have to come back to this Council  
4 with what's called a petition for a declaratory  
5 ruling.

6 Certainly it's also a public filing,  
7 and we accept comments on either something that's  
8 submitted through the FCC program or something  
9 that's submitted as a petition to increase the  
10 height more than 10 percent. And it would be  
11 public, and it would have to go through the full  
12 Council which we ordinarily make decisions at  
13 regular meetings that we hold every two weeks, but  
14 the decision would not be rendered any earlier  
15 than 30 to 60 days from the date it's filed. So  
16 if you did have comments, certainly we'd be  
17 receptive to those comments in the future.

18 MR. DEMBOWSKI: Thank you.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: I don't know if I fully  
20 answered your question on lighting because I think  
21 you asked about the tower. No lighting on the  
22 tower. But will there be some security lighting  
23 on the compound? Maybe somebody --

24 MR. BURNS: Yes, there will be lights  
25 on a motion detector around the equipment

1 platform.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. I think that  
3 covers it. Again, you have a whole team  
4 representing the applicants. So I'm sure if you  
5 have even more questions or want clarification,  
6 they can provide the details to you.

7 And I don't see anybody else from the  
8 public.

9 Is there anybody else from the public  
10 who wants to speak?

11 (No response.)

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. If not, I'll now  
13 close the public comment session of the hearing.

14 I just want to state that briefs --  
15 which this would really affect the applicant --  
16 may be filed with the Council no later than  
17 September 1st of this year. The submission of  
18 briefs is not required, but we leave it to you.

19 Anyone who is not here but who -- if  
20 you have any neighbors who wish to make his or her  
21 views known to the Council, they may file a  
22 written statement with the Council within 30 days  
23 of the date hereof.

24 The Council will issue draft findings  
25 of fact, and thereafter the party may identify

1 errors or inconsistencies.

2           Again, copies of the transcript of this  
3 hearing and the hearing earlier today will be  
4 filed with the Brookfield Town Clerk's Office.

5           And I hereby declare the hearing  
6 adjourned. Thank you all for your participation,  
7 and drive home safely. Thank you.

8           (Whereupon, the above proceedings  
9 concluded at 7:13 p.m.)

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 13 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original stenotype notes taken of the Council Meeting in Re: DOCKET NO. 467, HOMELAND TOWERS, LLC AND CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY LOCATED AT 100 POCONO ROAD, BROOKFIELD, CONNECTICUT, which was held before ROBERT STEIN, Chairman, at the Brookfield Town Hall, Room 133, 100 Pocono Road, Brookfield, Connecticut, on August 2, 2016.



-----  
Lisa L. Warner, L.S.R., 061  
Court Reporter